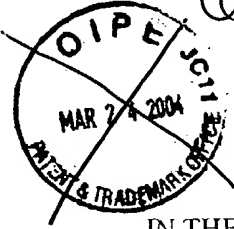


**PATENT APPLICATION**

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER ART UNIT 1648**



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Glaucia PARANHOS-BACCALA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1648

Application No.: 09/319,156

Examiner: J. Parkin

Filed: November 2, 1999

Docket No.: 103514

For: RETROVIRAL NUCLEIC MATERIAL AND NUCLEOTIDE FRAGMENTS, IN  
PARTICULAR ASSOCIATED WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND/OR  
RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS, FOR DIAGNOSTIC, PROPHYLACTIC AND  
THERAPEUTIC USES

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the September 25, 2003 Office Action, please consider the following:

**Amendments to the Specification;**

**Amendments to the Claims** as reflected in the listing of claims; and

**Remarks.**